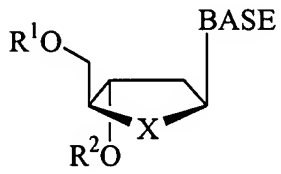
Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, or listings, of claims in this application. Please cancel claims 22-73.

Listing of Claims

1-4. (cancelled)

5. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of a host infected with a drug-resistant form of HBV that exhibits a mutation at the 552 codon from methionine to valine in the DNA polymerase region, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula (I):



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester or prodrug thereof, to the host wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are independently hydrogen, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, acyl, acetyl, butyryl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, CO-aryloxyalkyl, CO-substituted aryl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, aralkylsulfonyl, amino acid residue, mono, di, or triphosphate, or a phosphate derivative;

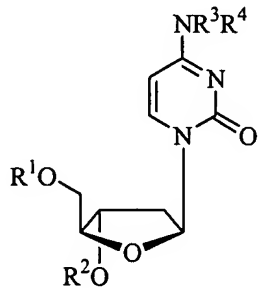
X is ~~O, S, SO_2 or CH_2~~; and

BASE is a ~~purine or pyrimidine base that may optionally be substituted~~ thymine or cytosine.

6. (cancelled)

7. (cancelled)

8. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of a host infected with a drug-resistant form of HBV that exhibits a mutation at the 552 codon from methionine to valine in the DNA polymerase region, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester or prodrug thereof to the host, wherein:

R^1 and R^2 are independently hydrogen, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, acyl, acetyl, butyryl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, CO-aryloxyalkyl, CO-substituted aryl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, aralkylsulfonyl, amino acid residue, mono, di, or triphosphate, or a phosphate derivative; and

R^3 and R^4 are independently H, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, dialkylaminoalkylene, acyl, acetyl, butyryl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, CO-aryloxyalkyl, CO-substituted aryl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, aralkylsulfonyl, amino acid residue, mono, di, or triphosphate, or a phosphate derivative.

9. (original) The method of claims 8, wherein R^3 and/or R^4 is H.

10. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein R^1 and/or R^2 is H.

11. (original) The method of claim 8, wherein at least one of R^1, R^2 or R^4 is an amino acid residue of the formula:

$$C(O)C(R^8)(R^9)(NR^{10}R^{11})$$

wherein:

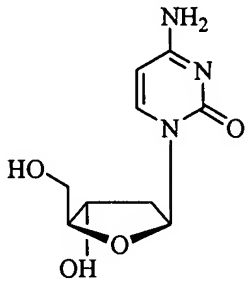
R^8 is the side chain of an amino acid, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclic, or can optionally attach to R^{10} to form a ring structure;

R^9 is hydrogen, alkyl, or aryl; and

R^{10} and R^{11} are independently hydrogen, acyl, or alkyl.

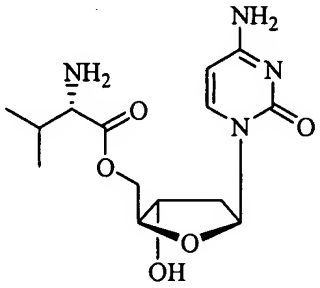
12. (original) The method of claim 11, wherein the amino acid residue is L-valinyl.

13. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of a host infected with a drug-resistant form of HBV that exhibits a mutation at the 552 codon from methionine to valine in the DNA polymerase region, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



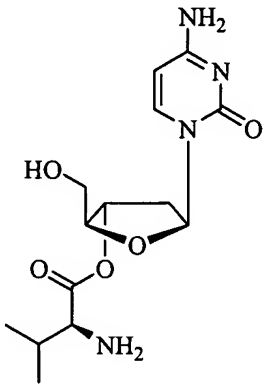
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester or prodrug thereof to the host.

14. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of a host infected with a drug-resistant form of HBV that exhibits a mutation at the 552 codon from methionine to valine in the DNA polymerase region, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



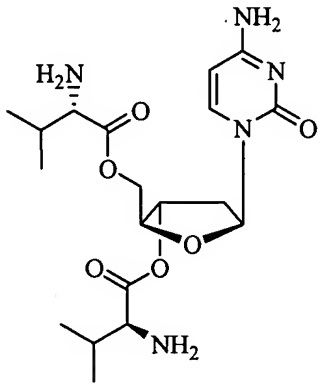
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester or prodrug thereof to the host.

15. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of a host infected with a drug-resistant form of HBV that exhibits a mutation at the 552 codon from methionine to valine in the DNA polymerase region, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



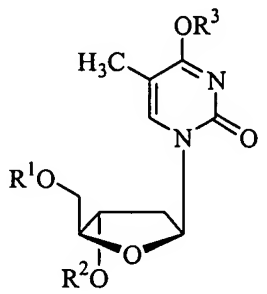
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester or prodrug thereof to the host.

16. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of a host infected with a drug-resistant form of HBV that exhibits a mutation at the 552 codon from methionine to valine in the DNA polymerase region, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester or prodrug thereof to the host.

17. (currently amended) A method for the treatment of a host infected with a drug-resistant form of HBV that exhibits a mutation at the 552 codon from methionine to valine in the DNA polymerase region, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester or prodrug thereof, to the host wherein

R^1 and R^2 are independently hydrogen, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, acyl, acetyl, butyryl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, CO-aryloxyalkyl, CO-substituted aryl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, aralkylsulfonyl, amino acid residue, mono, di, or triphosphate, or a phosphate derivative; and

R^3 is hydrogen, straight chained, branched or cyclic alkyl, dialkylaminoalkylene, acyl, acetyl, butyryl, CO-alkyl, CO-aryl, CO-alkoxyalkyl, CO-aryloxyalkyl, CO-substituted aryl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, aralkylsulfonyl, amino acid residue, mono, di, or triphosphate, or a phosphate derivative.

18. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein R^3 is H.

19. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein R^1 and/or R^2 is H.

20. (original) The method of claim 17, wherein at least one of R^1 or R^2 is an amino acid residue of the formula:

$$C(O)C(R^8)(R^9)(NR^{10}R^{11})$$

wherein:

R^8 is the side chain of an amino acid, alkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heterocyclic, or can optionally attach to R^{10} to form a ring structure;

R^9 is hydrogen, alkyl, or aryl; and

R^{10} and R^{11} are independently hydrogen, acyl, or alkyl.

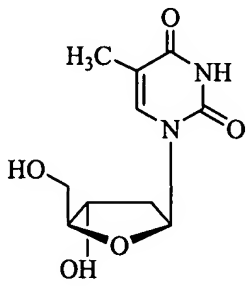
21. (original) The method of claim 20, wherein the amino acid residue is L-valinyl.

22-73. (cancelled)

74. (currently amended) The method of any one of claims ~~1-5,~~ 5, 8, 13-17 or 76 wherein the host is a mammal.

75. (original) The method of claim 74, wherein the host is a human.

76. (new) A method for the treatment of a host infected with a drug-resistant form of HBV that exhibits a mutation at the 552 codon from methionine to valine in the DNA polymerase region, comprising administering an effective amount of a compound of the formula:



or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt, ester or prodrug thereof to the host.

77. (new) The method of claim 13, wherein the compound is in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable ester.

78. (new) The method of claim 13, wherein the compound is in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

79. (new) The method of claim 13, wherein the compound is in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug.

80. (new) The method of claim 76, wherein the compound is in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable ester.

81. (new) The method of claim 76, wherein the compound is in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable salt.

82. (new) The method of claim 76, wherein the compound is in the form of a pharmaceutically acceptable prodrug.